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BIOGRAPHY: GENE BARNETT

As a 58 year resident of Torrance, I have seen the City undergo many changes as it evolved into the balanced community it is today. The pig farms, dairies and agricultural land that existed in my youth have long since disappeared.

As a product of the Torrance Unified School District, I attended elementary school and graduated from North High School. I attended El Camino College and graduated from California State University at Long Beach where I earned both a Bachelor's and Master's Degree.

I have been married to my wife, Linda, for 44 years. We have three daughters, all of whom attended Torrance Public Schools, and six granddaughters. We have lived in our home in Southeast Torrance for the past 31 years.

Prior to my appointment and subsequent election to the Torrance City Council, I worked for 35 years in the Torrance Parks and Recreation, and Community Services Departments, serving as Department Head for 28 years.

Enriching the community and improving the quality of life in Torrance has been the cornerstone of my 40 year public service career. Working together with my council colleagues, I am particularly proud of these accomplishments during my current term in office: maintained a balanced budget with no layoffs; preserved essential city services; maintained a safe and secure city; added a 5th paramedic unit; completed Seaside Heroes park; voted to enhance infrastructure and improve our roads; approved city-wide green waste recycling program; supported Torrance schools; completed remodeling of all six city libraries; and supported use of vacant land north of county courthouse for athletic fields.

I currently serve as chairman of the City Council's Employee Relations and Public Safety Committee; and serve as a member of the Citizen Development and Enrichment Committee, the Strategic Plan Committee, the Armed Forces Day Committee, the Ad Hoc Centennial Committee, and the Ad Hoc State Legislative Advisory Committee. Additionally I serve as the council liaison to the Torrance Sister City Association, and as the alternate voting delegate for the South Bay Economic Development Partnership (SBEDP).

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